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AP Lit Period 2

October 19, 2009

This I Believe

Of all the lunches my school cafeteria serves, beefy nachos stands out as the uncontested greatest lunch ever. Every so often, beefy nacho day will come along to the joy of hundreds of high schoolers, both freshmen and seniors alike. But beefy nacho day is more than just an unfathomable amount of calories and a delightedly full stomach for the rest of the week. It is a chance to appreciate the simple things life has to offer, and to come together as a school to share the joys of junk food. I believe in beefy nacho day.

Beefy nacho day unifies Fairview High School like nothing else, except perhaps prom.  Kids come together, wait in line for ten, fifteen minutes to receive their plates of happiness, and as they wait, they talk. Kids who have never met, and kids from all different grades, classes, and neighborhoods converge in the beefy nacho line and share a common goal. They talk about everything, and they talk about nothing. One of the best parts of beefy nacho day is joking and chatting with the people next to you in line. There are, however, some unofficial guidelines that govern beefy nacho day. Rule number one: No one should ever, *ever*, cut the beefy nacho line. This could quite possibly be one of the worst faux pas a person could commit in the high school cafeteria. Cutting in line defies everything beefy nacho day stands for, and replaces it with selfishness and greed. My friends, I am telling you, don’t *ever* cut the line. Rule number two: Beefy nachos should always be eaten around a table full of friends. What better way to fully enjoy your beefy nachos than with friends? In any circumstance, friends should always be part of the equation. And lastly, rule number three: Always grab some extra napkins for your neighbor. Let’s face it; beefy nachos are messy. Grabbing some napkins for your fellow beefy nacho enthusiast shows consideration, compassion, and kindness.

Some kids will say, “No way, I’m not eating that, look at all that grease!” To them I reply, “Look. Life doesn’t last forever.” In my opinion, high school might just be the only time in a person’s life where it is not only acceptable, but also encouraged, to savor the best (or worst) kind of fast food out there. Our high metabolisms and active lifestyles won’t last forever. Therefore, I think people should take advantage of this unique situation life has bestowed upon us, and eat the beefy nachos. Indeed, this philosophy should work in all aspects of life. Take a walk through the reds, oranges, and yellows of the fall leaves. Jump in the pool with your clothes on. Hug your mom before going to school or work, and tell her to have a good day. Someone, at some point, had a good phrase for this. What’s it called? Oh, that’s right. *Carpe diem. Seize the day.*